

**BOROUGH OF DUMONT
BERGEN COUNTY, N.J.
MINUTES
DECEMBER 16, 2014
6:30 PM**

Mayor Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:30PM

Flag Salute, Moment of Silence

Sunshine Law: This public meeting was called pursuant to the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Law. Notices of the change in location and time of this meeting of the Governing Body were sent to *The Record* and *The Ridgewood News*, posted on the Borough website and was filed with the Borough of Dumont.

Roll Call:

Council members: Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-present
Council members Brophy and Zamechansky-absent
Mayor Kelly-present

Motion to accept agenda as presented: Councilman Manna
Second: Councilman Riquelme
All in favor.

A Proclamation was presented by Mayor Kelly to Dumont UGALS 10U Summer Travel Softball Team Champions

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the November 12, 2014 Executive and Public meeting minutes:
Councilman Manna
Second: Councilman Riquelme
Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-yes
Motion to approve the December 2, 2014 Executive Session and Closed Session minutes:
Councilman Riquelme
Second: Councilman Manna
Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Manna, Riquelme-yes
Councilman Hayes abstained

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

FEMA-Mr. Perkins is checking on the fees different survey companies charge to do elevation certificates and their history of obtaining revisions to properties after submission. The official meeting with FEMA is scheduled for January 6th at the County. This meeting is strictly for officials. There will be a meeting with FEMA representatives for towns at which insurance rates will be discussed.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Councilwoman Correa

Board of Education

Harassment and bullying violations were reported. There were fifteen investigations and eight violations.

The lights on the field are very costly. Recreation football does not notify them sometimes when they decide not to use the field. They would like more communication.

Shade Tree Commission

They are organizing a seminar “Money Does Grow on Trees” January 26, 2015.

They planted 29 trees, 3 of which were planted at Memorial Park.

They are also working with Friends of Shade Tree to conduct Railroad Living History event at the arboretum in June.

- Councilman Hayes

Rent Leveling Board

They held their last meeting of the year. Meetings will be held quarterly next year.

The Chairperson has resigned.

Recreation

The Councilman was unable to attend the last Recreation Commission meeting but was at the meeting at which they interviewed people for the Director’s position.

Some of the commissioners are still working on getting paperwork in order.

Background checks, updated records and hopefully the hiring of the new director will be done in January.

- Councilman Manna

DPW

In November, a total of 632 miles of street were swept and ten catch basins cleared.

Leaf pickup is in full swing. Residents can now bundle branches and put them out with their regular garbage.

Ordinance Committee

The Councilman met with Chief Faulborn and the two Captains last week to discuss changing the Police Department hiring ordinance. The Chief would like to model Westwood’s ordinance. Recommendations will be made by the Committee in early 2015.

- Councilman Riquelme

Police Department

In November there were 1676 telephone calls for service, 75 calls for medical reasons and 5 calls for commitments.

The patrol officers issued 276 traffic and parking summonses, investigated 33 motor vehicle crashes and responded to 34 burglar alarms. They traveled 10,229 miles. The Detective Bureau investigated 17 domestic violence cases and handled 49 criminal cases.

Sgt. Murphy, Police Officers McDermott, Lezette and Quintano attended Domestic Violence training.

Review of Consent Agenda Items: All items with an asterisk are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Also, any item may be removed for further discussion or for roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business.

RESOLUTIONS

#234 Bills List *

#235 Authorization of Lease-Purchase of Two Police Vehicles-\$77,592.87 *

#236 Bergen County Community Development-Appointment of John Perkins,
Councilman Carl Manna and Mayor James Kelly as Dumont Committee
Representatives *

#237 Authorization of Transfer of 2014 Budget Appropriations * Liz Shick, from Gary Vinci's office, explained the purpose of the resolution and the difference between this and emergency appropriations.

#238 TwinBoro Field-Authorization of Mercury Environmental LSRP Proposal-\$1475 *

#239 Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee Members * Mayor Kelly suggested that an second alternate be added-Bill Linder would be alternate #1 and Steve Cavadias would be alternate #2. The Council agreed to leave this on the consent agenda contingent upon the changes.

#240 Authorization of Tax Appeal Settlement with Advance Housing, Inc.-\$18,142.33 *

Mr. Paster explained that this settlement is in response to a Supreme Court decision.

Motion to open to the public on Consent Agenda items: Councilman Hayes

Second: Councilman Manna

All in favor.

1. Rachel Bunin, 9 Poplar, asked the names of the members of the Ad Hoc Committee.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Hayes

All in favor.

Motion to adopt: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-yes

ORDINANCES

Second Reading

#1479 Bond ordinance providing for road resurfacing, appropriating \$165,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of \$156,750 of bonds or notes of the Borough for financing the costs for said improvements authorized to be undertaken in and by the Borough of Dumont, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey (Locust & Dumont Avenue)

Motion to waive the formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Correa

All in favor.

Councilman Hayes stated he would be voting no because even though we receive a \$126,000 grant, the bond is still an additional \$40,000 plus engineering fees. He feels that only emergencies should be taken care of. If the road were collapsing, he would agree. We will be spending a lot of money on Borough Hall.

Councilman Manna pointed out that if we don't repair the road now it will be more expensive in the future.

Mr. Perkins stated that some seniors have fallen in front of the Senior Center. There are only certain grids that qualify for the Community Development grant. It is \$126,000 free money from the County.

Councilman Riquelme stated that it is the duty of the Council to take care of the roads.

Councilwoman Correa said that it should be taken care of now. It will be more costly in the future. She pointed out that the town is responsible for accidents on borough roads and those can cost the Borough a lot.

Mayor Kelly tabled the ordinance.

#1480 Bond ordinance providing for various improvements, appropriating \$400,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of \$380,000 of bonds or notes of the Borough for financing the costs for said improvements authorized to be undertaken in and by the Borough of Dumont, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Correa

All in favor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Correa

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Motion to adopt at second reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-yes

#1481 Bond ordinance providing for temporary relocation of municipal offices, appropriating \$200,000 therefore and authorizing the issuance of \$180,000 of bonds or notes of the Borough for financing the costs for said improvements authorized to be undertaken in and by the Borough of Dumont, in the County of Bergen, New Jersey.

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilwoman Correa

All in favor.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to adopt: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-yes

#1482 Ordinance authorizing the entry into and execution of lease of office space on real property known as portions of lot 16 in block 825 on the tax map of the Borough of Dumont also known as 80 West Madison Avenue, within the borough to allow for temporary relocation of municipal offices, excluding the police department and municipal court sessions

Motion to waive formal reading: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Mr. Paster is in contact with the landlord to make a couple of cosmetic changes to the lease. Adoption should be contingent upon these revisions.

Motion to open to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Motion to adopt: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

Roll call vote: Council members Correa, Hayes, Manna, Riquelme-yes

Motion to open to the public for general comments: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

1. Rachel Bunin, 9 Poplar Street, asked the status of the D'Angelo Farm tax appeal and the farm rollback tax. Mr. Paster responded it is still pending. She asked if they are up to date with their taxes. She also asked if there was any movement from the builder.

2. Lynn Vietri, 41 Wilkens Drive, asked the expiration date for the builders contract with D'Angelo's. She commented that Recreation is a mess. What is the status of the Director and Coordinator's positions? She asked the size of the property the current Borough Hall occupies. Will the new Borough Hall be built on the same site? She questioned whether the 6.2 acre lot of D'Angelo's was assessed completely as commercial.

3. Cary Stopsky, 40 E. Quackenbush, stated that the plantings done during the Phase II Flood Control project are dead. Mr. Perkins responded that he suggested they be replanted in the Spring. He asked if the DPW could clear the brook by his house. Mr. Perkins responded that according to DEP regulations, desnagging is not permitted. However, the Mosquito Commission is permitted to desnag.

4. Tom Gorman, 46 Wilcox, asked if 80 W. Madison Avenue is ADA compliant and feels that parking will be an issue.

5. Tom Grassi, 27 Merritt, asked if there have been any negotiations with the Builder who is under contract with D'Angelo's. He suggested proposing to the builder that if they agreed to build single family homes, the Borough would offer a \$5,000 a year property tax abatement for a certain length of time.

6. Rich Little, 100 Randolph Avenue, asked if anyone had a response to his question about land in the flood zone from the previous meeting. Mayor Kelly responded that he had spoken to the Borough tax assessor who said the land value is assessed less. He also mentioned a FEMA report which showed the Borough had \$326,000 in claims.

7. Rachel Bunin, 9 Poplar Street, said she believes the amount of money the builder is paying for the land is much more than the land is worth. Is the town thinking of having their own appraisal done?

8. Tom Grassi, 27 Merritt, asked if we have seen the D'Angelo contract. Mr. Paster explained that it is contingent upon approvals acceptable to the developer. The developer can walk away but the owner can't. The owner also has to pay a portion of the remediation necessary.

Motion to close to the public: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Hayes

All in favor.

Although it is up to the Recreation Commission to hire a Director, Councilwoman Correa strongly suggests to the Council to look into the application of the person the Recreation Commission is thinking of hiring. This hiring would result in a reoccurrence of what we went through in November with several of the coaches. Mr. Perkins commented that he had been present at the interview and the Commission had voted to hire the individual. He had recommended that the hiring be contingent upon certain information which had not been supplied. As of today that information was not provided.

Mr. Paster stated that the Commissioners are legally bound to uphold their policies and bylaws as well as State Statutes under penalty of disorderly persons prosecution. This, therefore, is not to be taken lightly.

Councilman Manna said that although the Council does not have direct input on the Commission's decisions, if the right person is not hired to direct the operations of Recreation, it puts all of them at risk and the Council will be asked why.

Councilman Hayes stated that the individual is qualified to coach and substitute teach. The Councilman is not going to do anything to jeopardize the town; the public should be reassured that everything will work out.

Motion to adjourn: Councilman Manna

Second: Councilman Riquelme

All in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Susan Connelly, RMC
Municipal Clerk